

VZCZCXRO9362
PP RUEHDT RUEHPT
DE RUEHBY #0423 1190748
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 280748Z APR 08
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9455
INFO RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 1781
RUEHDT/AMEMBASSY DILI PRIORITY 0169
RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY 5220
RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY 2438
RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 7292
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1088
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 2164
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 9442
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 3034
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR PRIORITY 0114
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 5300
RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE PRIORITY 5200
RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH PRIORITY 3483
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY PRIORITY 3391
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 000423

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
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DRL FOR CHRISTOPHER CAMPONOVO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [AS](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA TO PARTICIPATE IN ASIA-PACIFIC DEMOCRACY
PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH

REF: A) CANBERRA 298 B) STATE 39596

11. (SBU) Poloff met April 28 with Evan Gallagher and Nicole Forrester of the International Organizations Branch, and Berenice Owens-Jones of the United States Political and Strategic Section, of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to present USG responses to the questions posed by Australia in ref A and to discuss further the Asia Pacific Democracy Partnership (APDP) nonpaper. Gallagher, who is the action officer on the APDP, said DFAT had briefed Foreign Minister Smith on the APDP last week and he had approved Australian participation in the upcoming meetings.

12. (SBU) In discussing the inclusion of new members of the APDP (ref B), Gallagher suggested that Singapore should be invited to join. He said that Australia was working to convince the Indonesians to include the United States as a member of the Bali Democracy Forum. Indonesia was looking at June or July for an officials-level meeting. In terms of a possible venue for an official or "hard launch" of the APDP, Gallagher had no concrete suggestions but noted that a meeting at the ARF would compete with the Bali Democracy Forum, and would risk "putting China offside."

MCCALLUM